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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of) Group Art Unit: 1632
David Charles Baulcombe et al.) Examiner: P. Paras, Jr.
Serial No. 09/491,549) Response to Paper No. 15
Filed: January 26, 2000)
For: "GENE SILENCING")

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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In response to the Official Action dated December 4, 2001, please reconsider the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 in view of the following remarks:

REMARKS

The December 4, 2001 Official Action and the references cited therein have been carefully reviewed. The present remarks, which are responsive to the Official Action dated December 4, 2001 in the above-identified patent application, are being filed as part of the submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114, in connection with the Request for Continued Examination, which is submitted concurrently herewith.

Applicants submit herewith a certified copy of the British priority application to comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §119(b).

Claims 1, 5-10, 12-17, 21, 26-29, and 32-34 as amended stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly anticipated by a meeting presentation at Leysin, Switzerland.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 5-17, 21, 26-29, and 32-34 as allegedly obvious over Waterhouse et al., and Wassenger et